

EOPS PROGRAMS DIVISION NEWSLETTER

December 2000

The EOPS Programs Division wishes all members of the criminal justice community a happy and safe holiday season!!!

We welcome your comments and suggestions regarding this electronic newsletter. Please e-mail Diana Brensilber at: Diana.Brensilber@state.ma.us.

Announcements

Juvenile Crime in Massachusetts. The Massachusetts Statistical Analysis Center (SAC) announces its recent publication, "Juvenile Crime in Massachusetts." This report presents a comprehensive analysis of the characteristics of Massachusetts' juvenile population, juveniles in the justice system, juvenile arrests, and Massachusetts' NIBRS data. It is the SAC's intention to provide timely law enforcement data to the public safety community and the public. Key findings include:

- *Approximately three-quarters of juvenile arrestees were residents of the community in which they committed their crime(s).*
- *One-in-four incidents involving a juvenile perpetrator were committed by a group of offenders acting together.*
- *For the years 1994 through 1999, larceny was the offense perpetrated most often by juvenile offenders, identified as the most serious incident offense in 24 percent of incidents.*
- *Over one-third of crimes committed by juveniles (40 percent) occurred between the hours of 2PM and 6PM.*

For more information, contact Diana Brensilber at: Diana.Brensilber@state.ma.us or download the report at: <http://www.state.ma.us/ccj/sacpubs.htm>

Violent Crime and Weapon Use in Massachusetts. The Massachusetts Statistical Analysis Center provided a report to the State Legislature examining the incidence of violent crime and weapons use in the Commonwealth. Data from a variety of sources, including the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Massachusetts State Police Crime Reporting Unit, were compiled and presented in this report. Topics covered include: homicide, rape, robbery, aggravated assault, and weapons/firearms. For more information, contact Diana Brensilber at: Diana.Brensilber@state.ma.us or download the report at: <http://www.state.ma.us/ccj/sacpubs.htm>

Juvenile Transportation Services Now Available for Southeast Region. In an effort to relieve police of the burden of transporting arrested juveniles to and from Alternative Lockup Programs (ALP), the Executive Office of Public Safety (EOPS) Programs Division has awarded federal Formula Grant funds to the Bristol County Sheriff's Overnight Arrest Unit for adding a transportation component to their program. The ALP currently provides secure overnight arrest services to 67 police agencies in the southeast region of the state. After polling many chiefs on this issue, it was determined that the heaviest burden placed on police is the transport of the juvenile from the ALP to court the morning after the arrest. Therefore, beginning December 4, 2000, the Bristol County Sheriff's Overnight Arrest Unit will provide transportation for any referred juvenile to the appropriate court on the day of the next court session following the arrest. Although transportation is a statewide problem, this service will be available only to those departments within the EOPS-determined coverage area of the Bristol County Sheriff's Overnight Arrest Unit. If you would like more information regarding this service, please contact Christopher Mann, Juvenile Justice Compliance Monitor, at (617) 727-6300 ext. 25303, or Col. Dean Royer, Bristol County Sheriff's Overnight Arrest Unit Director, at (508) 979-8256.

A **Multijurisdictional Counter Crime Task Force Program** web page is now available on the Programs Division web site. Visit <http://www.state.ma.us/ccj/mjtf.htm> to read an overview of the program, view FFY1997 - FFY2000 awardees, or download quarterly reports.

"The Louis D. Brown Peace Institute" The Peace Institute is named after 15-year old peacemaker Louis D. Brown who participated in anti-violence events in his community and was the innocent victim of a gang shooting in 1993. Survivors of Homicide Organized for Change (SHOC), which is affiliated with the Peace Institute, helped in gaining Legislative passage of Survivors of Homicide Victims Awareness Month in Massachusetts, which began Nov. 20 and will end Dec. 20. A photo display entitled "Faces of Survivors of Homicide Victims" is on view at the Dorchester House Multi-Service Center through December 20th. For more information call (617) 288-3230 or visit <http://www.institute4peace.org/page2.html>

Funding

From the Federal Government

Office of Research and Evaluation 2001 Solicitation for Investigator-Initiated Research

<http://www.ncjrs.org/pdffiles1/nij/sl000442.pdf>

NIJ is soliciting an open invitation to researchers to submit proposals to conduct research on a wide spectrum of areas that will assist in shaping public policies to control crime and enhance justice.

- Application Deadline: Letter of intent due December 17, 2000. Application due January 17, 2001.
- Eligibility Requirements: Researchers from all disciplines.

Examining Minority Trust and Confidence in the Police <http://www.ncjrs.org/pdffiles1/nij/sl000448.pdf>

NIJ is requesting applications for research designed to examine the relationship between police and minority communities. Support will be given to research projects that demonstrate the potential to make policy and programmatic recommendations

regarding this topic, as well as evaluations of programs that are designed to reduce the incidence of use of force and incivilities by law enforcement agents against minorities.

Application Deadline: Non-binding letter of intent due January 15, 2001. Application due February 15, 2001.

Eligibility Requirements: Not specified.

Maximum Award Amount: Awards totaling \$1 million will be made available for this solicitation.

Number of Awards Made: 6

Grant Period: Maximum of 2 years

From Private Foundations. . . .

Home Depot Foundation

http://www.homedepot.com/prel80/HDUS/EN_US/diy_main/pg_diy.jsp?CNTTYPE=NAVIGATION&CNTKEY=compinfo/index.jsp

Home Depot awards grants to nonprofit agencies that provide programming for at-risk youth in communities where its associates and customers live and work. Proposals are accepted throughout the year. For complete details, direct correspondence to:

Director, Community Affairs
The Home Depot
2455 Paces Ferry Road
Atlanta, Georgia 30339

The Linnell Foundation Provides funding on a nationwide basis for programs that support anti-crime, law-enforcement and addiction programs. The average grant amount awarded by the foundation is \$22,000, targeted primarily to nonprofits and public-policy organizations. There is no deadline for applications; however, the board meets in March, June, September, and December. For complete details, contact Arthur Carlson, executive director, Linnell Foundation, P.O. Box 649, West End, NC 27376.

Research and Statistics

"Trends and Issues in Juvenile Delinquency" In 1999, juvenile crime in Massachusetts fell to its lowest level in seven years even as the youth population in the state has increased. The number of arraignments of juvenile offenders decreased 13.6% from 1995 and 6.5% from 1998, while the youth population rose 15.9% from 1995 - 2000. <http://www.cfji.org/FB2000.pdf>

"High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas" (HIDTA) Every state in New England, and in particular the 12 designated NEHIDTA counties (which include Suffolk, Essex, Worcester, Plymouth, and Hampden counties) are experiencing an unprecedented rise in heroin related deaths and hospital emergency department admissions for overdoses. <http://www.whitehousedrugpolicy.gov/enforce/hidta.html>

"Customs Seize Record Amount of Ecstasy in 2000" Custom officers seized a record 9.3 million tablets of ecstasy in FY 2000, an increase of 165.7 percent over FY 1999's 3.5 million tablets. <http://www.customs.ustreas.gov/news/news.htm>

"Crime Gun Trace Reports (1999) National Report" According to the report, 22% of all guns used in crimes recovered in 1999 were originally part of multiple purchases. In addition, offenders legally bought 11% of all guns recovered from federally licensed firearms dealers. Highlights of the Boston City Report indicate juveniles (ages 17 and under) accounted for 15% of traced crime guns, youth (ages 18-24) were associated with almost 46% of traced crime guns, and adults accounted for nearly 39% of traced crime guns in Boston. <http://www.atf.treas.gov/firearms/ycgii/1999/index.htm>

"Juvenile Delinquency Probation Cases, 1988-1997." Nationally courts with juvenile jurisdiction handled nearly 1.8 million delinquency cases in 1997. Probation supervision was the most severe disposition in almost 37% (645,600) of all delinquency cases. The number of cases placed on probation increased 48% between 1988 and 1997. <http://www.ncjrs.org/pdffiles1/ojdp/fs200019.pdf>

"Female Delinquency Cases, 1997" Nationally, the number of delinquency cases involving females increased 83% from 1988 to 1997. Female juvenile delinquents were most frequently charged with property offenses (49%), followed by person offenses (25%), public order offenses (20%), and drug offenses (7%). <http://www.ncjrs.org/pdffiles1/ojdp/fs200016.pdf>

"Juveniles and the Death Penalty" This report examines the history of capital punishment and Supreme Court decisions related to its use with juveniles. Currently, 38 States authorize the death penalty; 23 of these permit the execution of offenders who committed capital offenses prior to their 18th birthdays. Since 1973, when the death penalty was reinstated, 17 men have been executed for crimes they committed as juveniles, and 74 people in the U.S. are currently on death row for crimes they committed as juveniles. <http://www.ncjrs.org/pdffiles1/ojdp/184748.pdf>

"Partnership Attitude Tracking Study: Spring 2000, Teens in Grades 7 through 12" A nationwide survey of 7,290 teens ages 12 to 18 found that, overall, illicit drug use remained stable between 1999 and 2000, and declined significantly from 1997. Since 1997, trial use of marijuana has declined by about 10%, from 44% in 1997, to 40% in 2000. In 2000, 10% of teens said they have tried Ecstasy, up from 7% in 1998 and 1999, and doubling since 1995. <http://www.drugfreeamerica.org/acrobat/pats2000full.pdf>

"1998 National Youth Gang Survey" This report indicates youth gangs decreased from the previous year, from 51% in 1997 to 48% in 1998. An estimated 780,200 gang members were active in 28,700 youth gangs in 1998, a decrease from the previous year's figures of 816,000 and 30,500 respectively. <http://www.ncjrs.org/pdffiles1/ojdp/183109.pdf>

"Correctional Populations in the United States, 1997" In 1997, 5.7 million (2.8%) adults in the U.S. were under correctional supervision. Seven in 10 were supervised in the community, through probation or parole. Probationers comprised 57% and

parolees comprised 5% of all adults under community supervision. <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/pub/pdf/cpus97.pdf>

From the Bench: A Decision by the Supreme Court. . . .

On November 28, 2000, the Supreme Court ruled that police roadblocks aimed at discovering drugs violate the Constitution, reaffirming the Fourth Amendment prohibition against searches and seizures that are not based on a suspicion of individual wrongdoing. The decision was made in a case where Indianapolis, Indiana, police set up roadblocks to examine motorists for any signs of drug use, while a drug-sniffing dog walked around the outside of the cars. In a 6-3 vote, the Supreme Court ruled that the roadblocks were a violation of privacy rights. <http://www.nytimes.com/2000/11/29/national/29SCOT.html>

Resources

"National Police Suicide Foundation" Experts said that suicide prevention programs must teach officers, their colleagues and families the importance of recognizing the warning signs of suicide. <http://www.psf.org/>

"NIJ Standard for Hand-Held Metal Detectors for Use in Concealed Weapon and Contraband Detection" This standard establishes performance requirements and methods of test for active hand-held metal detectors used to find metal weapons and/or metal contraband carried on a person and/or concealed by a nonmetal object. <http://www.ncjrs.org/pdffiles1/nij/183470.pdf>

"Law Enforcement Referral of At-Risk Youth: The SHIELD Program" This report describes how the Strategic Home Intervention and Early Leadership Development (SHIELD) program takes advantage of contacts made by law enforcement officers to identify youth at risk of delinquency and to address their needs through a multidisciplinary team approach involving representatives from the community, schools, and service agencies. <http://www.ncjrs.org/pdffiles1/ojdp/184579.pdf>

"Safe From the Start: Taking Action on Children Exposed to Violence" Children's exposure to violence creates feelings of helplessness, hopelessness, fear, and aggression, and has long-term effects, including difficulties in school, work, and relationships, and physical and mental health problems. Studies indicate that children exposed to violence are at a greater risk of perpetrating violent acts, and they may be revictimized later in life. This report outlines principles for preventing and reducing the negative impact of the exposure to violence on children. <http://www.ncjrs.org/pdffiles1/ojdp/182789.pdf>

"Justice for Kids and Youth" A Department of Justice website that provides information for youth in grades K - 12, parents, and teachers on different aspects of justice - such as Internet do's and don'ts, getting involved in crime and drug prevention, and learning about the FBI. <http://www.usdoj.gov/kidspage/>

"Decision Support System" The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration's Center for Substance Abuse Prevention has implemented the Decision Support System (DSS) for substance abuse prevention. DSS is a Web-based resource that can assist State prevention systems and community-based organizations in planning, implementing, and evaluating prevention programs. <http://www.preventiondss.org>

"The USA Today What's Your Anti-Drug Supplement" Developed by kids for kids, thousands of young people ages 10 to 17 from across America answered the question "What's Your Anti-Drug?" The answers included poetry, drawing, music, friends, family, church, swimming, rock-climbing, and ballet. <http://www.mediacampaign.org/pdf/USATodaySup.pdf>
Check out <http://www.whatsyourantidrug.com> to find out more about this national initiative.

"The Media Tool Kit for Anti-Drug Action" The Media Tool Kit enables organizations to participate in the National Youth Anti-Drug Media Campaign. It contains background information, ideas for engaging the community, materials for contacting the media, samples of handouts and camera-ready art, and many more resources. <http://www.mediacampaign.org/mediatoolkit/index.html>

Contact Information

Please visit the Programs Division web site at: <http://www.state.ma.us/ccj/>

Department of Justice agency web sites:

NCJRS <http://www.ncjrs.org/>
OJP <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/>
BJA <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/BJA/>
BJS <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/>
OJJDP <http://ojdp.ncjrs.org/>
NIJ <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/nij/>

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